

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

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Australia

Post: Canberra

Testing of Food from Japan - Update

Report Categories:

Trade Policy Monitoring

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Report Highlights:

The Australian government has announced some additional testing requirements for Japanese food products entering Australia.

Further to information provided in our previous report on this subject ([Additional Testing Required for Japanese Food Products Canberra Australia 4-8-2011](#)), the Australian Government has announced some additional testing requirements for Japanese food entering Australia.

These changes reflect recent FSANZ advice regarding the prefectures from where the foods of interest may be sourced taking into consideration test results released by Japan and Singapore that show detections of radioactive contamination for Iodine¹³¹ above the Codex guideline level of 100Bq/kg in some vegetables. FSANZ has recommended that AQIS include testing of vegetables (fresh, frozen and dried) for the presence of Iodine¹³¹ from an additional eight prefectures: Kanagawa, Miyagi, Nagano, Niigata, Saitama, Shizuoka, Tokyo and Yamagata.

The table below summarizes the various tests required for all the affected Japanese foods entering Australia.

Summary of Radionuclide Testing for Japanese Food Imports						
	Seaweed fresh, frozen & dried	Seafood fresh, frozen & dried	Fruit fresh, frozen & dried	Vegetables fresh, frozen & dried	Milk fresh & dried	All Other Foods
Fukushima	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	-
Gunma	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	-
Ibaraki	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	-
Tochigi	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	-
Chiba	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	Cs ^{134, 137} I ¹³¹	-
Shizuoka	-	-	-	I ¹³¹	-	-
Niigata	-	-	-	I ¹³¹	-	-
Kanagawa	-	-	-	I ¹³¹	-	-
Tokyo	-	-	-	I ¹³¹	-	-
Yamagata	-	-	-	I ¹³¹	-	-
Saitama	-	-	-	I ¹³¹	-	-
Nagano	-	-	-	I ¹³¹	-	-
Miyagi	-	-	-	I ¹³¹	-	-

AQIS has issued an updated notice for the testing of certain foods from Japan – [Imported Food Notice 05/11](#).

FSANZ has also updated the fact sheet on its website: [Safety of food from Japan - Food Standards Australia New Zealand](#)

